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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 07826 01 OF 02 121138Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08
NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 L-03 H-01 IO-13 PA-01 AGRE-00 /107 W
----------081239 121218Z /72
R 120751Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5663
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USADB

DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURYDEP

ROME PASS US MISSION TO FAO

EO 11652:N/A
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, ADB
SUBJECT: CPOSSIBLE ADB PARTICIPATION IN PLAN TO BOOST WORLD
LZUOF RICE OUTPUT

1. IAHLQE NOTED THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE APRIL 28 ISSUE OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. IN THIS CONNECTION I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT INTERNAL GOVERN-MENTAL DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY IN TOKYO PROMOTED BY SABURO OKITA WHO HOPES TO OBTAIN JAPANESE GOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT FOR THE TAKASE PLAN. THE JAPANESE OFFICIAL ATTITUDE IS LIKELY TO BE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE CONCEPT BY OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE UNITED STATES. INFORMAL APPROACHES ARE ALREADY SAID TO HAVE BEEN MADE TO PRESIDENTS OF IBRD, FAO, AND ASIAN
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PAGE 02 MANILA 07826 01 OF 02 121138Z

DEVELOPMENT BANK.

2. I FULLY APPRECIATE IT MAY BE FAR TOO EARLY TO OBTAIN FULLY CONSIDERED US VIEW, BUT IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO RECEIVE WHATEVER BACKGROUND WASHINGTON MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE, PARTICULARLY ITS VIEWS AS TO THE ROLE THE INTER-NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE ADB, MIGHT

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

PLAY.

QUOTE: A WAY TO BOOST WORLD RICE OUTPUT PROPOSED
- BY JEREMIA K. NOVAK

- A BOLD PLAN TO INCREASE WORLD RICE PRODUCTION IS ONE OF MANY PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED BY A SOON-TO-BE ANNOUNCED PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON WORLD HUNGER.
- PRESIDENT CARTER IS SLATED TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE COMMISSION NEXT MONTH. HE WILL BE GIVING A MAJOR ADDRESS ON WORLD HUNGER, OUTLINING A PROGRAM TO ELIMINATE THE THREAT OF STARVATION BY THE END OF THE CENTURY.

- DR. PETER BOURNE, A WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER IN CHARGE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S WORLD HUNGER GROUP, SAYS A PROPOSAL BY DR. KUNIO TAKASE OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK THAT WOULD INCREASE RICE PRODUCTION FROM 2.2 TONS PER HECTARE TO 4 TONS PER HECTARE IN THE NEXT 15 YEARS WILL BE TAKEN UP BY THE COMMISSION.

- IN BROADER TERMS, THE COMMISSION WILL OUTLINE ANTI-HUNGER STRATEGIES THAT RANGE FROM NEW WAYS TO SIGNIFI-CANTLY INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, TO PROVISIONS FOR ENSURING FOR BASIC NUTRITIONAL NEEDS, BY ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL GRAIN RESERVE AND MAKING SURE THAT FOOD AID REACHES THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.
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- THE PLAN TO INCREASE RICE PRODUCTION HAS BEEN STUDIED BY THE PRESTIGIOUS TRILATERAL COMMISSION UNDER THE TITLE OF INNERQUOTE EXPANDING FOOD PRODUCTION: RICE PRODUCTION IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA END INNERQUOTE. IT WOULD COST 54 BILLION DOLLARS OVER THE 15-YEAR PERIOD. HALF THIS COST WOULD BE RAISED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES. THE REST, AMOUNTING TO 1.8 BILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR, WOULD BE SUPPLIED BY A CONSORTIUM OF DONOR NATIONS, INCLUDING JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND COUNTRIES IN WESTERN EUROPE AND THE ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES.

- THE TRILATERAL COMMISSION IS A STUDY GROUP FOUNDED BY DAVID ROCKEFELLER AND OTHER LEADING BUSINESSMEN IN JAPAN AND WESTERN EUROPE TO STUDY WAYS OF OVERHAULING THE AILING WORLD ECONOMY. THE COMMISSION CAME INTO PROMINENCE WITH THE ELECTION OF JIMMY CARTER, WHO ALONG WITH VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE AND 16 OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION, HAD BELONGED TO THE GROUP PRIOR TO TAKING THEIR CURRENT POSTS.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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- DR. TAKASE'S PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE NOTION THAT INCREASES IN RICE PRODUCTION CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IF IRRIGATION PROJECTS ARE INSTITUTED TO CONTROL WATER SUPPLIES. WATER SUPPLY IS THE KEY TO RICE PRODUCTION, DR. TAKASE EXPLAINS. BY CONTROLLING WATER, NEW STRAINS OF RICE, MULTIPLE CROPPING, AND EFFECTIVE FERTILIZERS CAN THEN BE USED TO INCREASE THE YIELD PER HECTARE.
- DR. TAKASE POINTS TO PILOT PROJECTS IN TAIWAN, INDONESIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES THAT HAVE PROVEN THAT PROPER WATER CONTROL DOUBLES RICE YIELDS WITHIN FIVE YEARS. HIS SCHEME WOULD INCREASE WATER CONTROL FROM THE 35 PERCENT OF RICE ACREAGE CURRENTLY IRRIGATED IN ASIA TO 75 PERCENT OF ALL LAND UNDER RICE CULTURE BY 1990. BY SO DOING, THE 39 MILLION TON RICE SHORTAGE PROJECTED
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PAGE 04 MANILA 07826 01 OF 02 121138Z

FOR 1990 CAN BE TURNED INTO A RICE SURPLUS.

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PAGE 01 MANILA 07826 02 OF 02 121102Z
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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08
NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
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R 120023Z MAY 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5664
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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

- A NEW PLAN FOR GREATER RICE PRODUCTION IS URGENTLY NEEDED DR. TAKASE CLAIMS. THE INNERQUOTE GREEN REVOLUTION END INNERQUOTE FOR RICE IN ASIA HAS FAILED, HE SAYS, BECAUSE OF DROUGHT OR FLOODING. RICE PRODUCTION HAS GROWN AT ONLY 2.6 PERCENT A YEAR, WHILE WHEAT AND OTHER INNERQUOTE DRY END INNERQUOTE CROPS INCREASED BY 8 PERCENT PER ANNUM, HE SAYS. THE GAP IS SERIOUS HE BELIEVES BECAUSE RICE IS THE MOST SUITABLE CROP FOR THE WET MONSOON AREAS OF SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA.

- THE TAKASE SCHEME HAS ALREADY WON ENDORSEMENT FROM THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD), THE PARIS-BASED THINK-TANK COORDINATES AID FOR THE 24 NATIONS OF WESTERN EUROPE, JAPAN, AND NORTH AMERICA. IN ADDITION, THE TAKASE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN EN-
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DORSED BY SABURO OKITA OF THE OVERSEAS ECONOMIC COOPERATION FUND OF JAPAN. DR. OKITA ASSISTED DR. TAKASE IN DEVELOPING THE ECONOMIC COST OF THE PROGRAM AND HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN CONVINCING THE OECD AND TRILATERAL COMMISSION IN ACCEPTING THE PROJECT FOR STUDY.

- ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT CARTER WILL LEAVE THE TAKASE PLAN TO THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION, DR. BOURNE NOTES THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S IMMINENT SPEECH IS BASED ON A REPORT PREPARED LAST AUTUMN AND CIRCULATED IN JANUARY.
- THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, DR. BOURNE MAINTAINS, INNERQUOTE IS INTENDED TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR SCHEMES SUCH AS THE TAKASE PROPOSAL, AND REPRESENTS THE BEGINNING OF A MAJOR CAMPAIGN TO REVOLUTIONIZE AGRICULTURE, ESPECIALLY IN ASIA, WHERE TWO-THIRDS OF THE WORLD'S POOR LIVE END INNERQUOTE UNQUOTE. EDMOND

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